

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 18

Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon

February 17, 2005

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 18— Relative to American Stroke Month 2005.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 18, as introduced, Gordon. American Stroke Month 2005.

This measure would recognize May 2005 as American Stroke Month in California, and would urge all California citizens to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke, so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects strokes have on our population.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, On average, someone in the United States has a
2 stroke every 45 seconds; and
3 WHEREAS, On average, every three minutes someone in the
4 United States dies of a stroke; and
5 WHEREAS, Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the
6 United States striking approximately 700,000 Americans each
7 year; and
8 WHEREAS, Stroke leads to the death of more that 18,000
9 Californians each year; and
10 WHEREAS, In 2004, the direct and indirect costs attributable
11 to stroke in the United States exceeded \$53 billion; and
12 WHEREAS, The majority of Americans are unaware of their
13 risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and
14 symptoms of an impending stroke; and

1 WHEREAS, Warning signs of stroke include sudden
2 numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one
3 side of the body, sudden confusion, trouble speaking or
4 understanding, sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, sudden
5 trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, and
6 sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

7 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association, a division of
8 the American Heart Association, strives to reduce disability and
9 death from stroke through research, education, fundraising, and
10 advocacy; and

11 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association is celebrating
12 May 2005 as American Stroke Month in California; and

13 WHEREAS, The theme for American Stroke Month 2005 is
14 “Time Lost = Brain Lost” to offer advocates for stroke awareness
15 an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the
16 devastating effects of stroke; and

17 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been
18 developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging
19 effects of stroke, but much more research is needed; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
22 *thereof concurring,* That the month of May 2005 shall be
23 recognized as American Stroke Month in California in order to
24 raise awareness of the effects of stroke; and be it further

25 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges all California citizens to
26 familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and
27 risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to
28 reduce the devastating effects strokes have on our population;
29 and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit
31 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.